

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Christopher F. Claiborne, et al.

Serial No.: Unassigned

Case No.: 20282DA

Filed: Even date herewith

For: SUBSTITUTED IMIDAZOLES HAVING CYTOKINE
INHIBITORY ACTIVITY

Art Unit:

1625

Examiner:

P.L. Morris

The Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the application as follows.

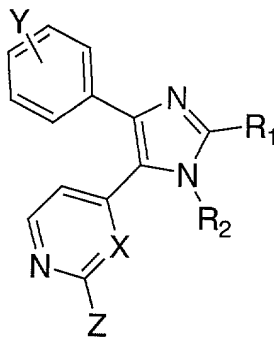
In the specification:

Page 1, line 4, Please insert the following: - - This is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/358,199 filed July 21, 1999 and claims the benefit of the filing date of U.S. Application No. 60/095,051, filed July 31, 1998. - -.

In the claims:

Please cancel claim 3 and amend claim 1 as follows:

Claim 1. (Amended) A compound represented by formula I:



(I)

wherein

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE
DATE OF DEPOSIT DECEMBER 20, 2000
U.S. MAIL NO. EL 52397945US
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AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER
FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231.
P. L. Morris
12.20.00

R₁ is C₁₋₆alkyl;

R₂ is H, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₈cycloalkyl, OC₁₋₆alkyl or C(O)C₁₋₆alkyl;

R₃ is H, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₈cycloalkyl, OC₁₋₆alkyl, [or] C(O)C₁₋₆alkyl or aralkyl;

X is [C or] N;

Y is H, halogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, CN or CF₃;

Z is NHR₃ or F;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable addition salt and/or hydrate thereof, or where applicable, a geometric or optical isomer or racemic mixture thereof.

Remarks

The claims are 1, 2, and 4-13. Claim 1 has been amended to delete subject matter without prejudice to pursuit of such subject matter in continuing and/or divisional applications, and to correct typographical and grammatical errors. Accordingly, the changes do not constitute new matter.

Attorney for Applicants can be reached at the telephone number and address below. Correspondence should continue to be sent to the address below. Any additional fees or deficiency in fees required should be taken from Merck Deposit Account No. **13-2755**.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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Date: December 20, 2000